WE CLAIM:

1. A method for enhancing database performance in a Domain Name System (DNS), the method comprising the steps of:

- receiving data to be supplied to database operations, the data including at least one domain name comprising a plurality of successive labels, said at least one domain name being in a first format;

- converting at least one of said at least one domain name into a second format in which at least two successive labels of the at least one of said at least one domain name are combined to form a single label; and

- supplying the data to the database operations, the supplied data including at least one domain name in the second format.

2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of examining whether a domain name fulfills a predetermined condition in the first format.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the examining step includes examining whether said domain name includes at least a predetermined number of labels beyond a given origin, said labels having a predetermined maximum length.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the converting step is performed for said domain name when the examining step indicates that the domain name includes at least the predetermined number of labels beyond the given origin, said labels having the predetermined maximum length, and the converting step is not performed when the

examining step indicates that the domain name does not include at least the predetermined number of labels.

5. A method according to claim 3, wherein the predetermined number of labels is three.

6. A method according to claim 3, wherein the predetermined maximum length is one byte.

7. A method according to claim 5, wherein the predetermined maximum length is one byte.

8. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of

- receiving data including another domain name in the second format; and

- converting the another domain name received in the second format back to the first format.

9. A system for enhancing database performance in a Domain Name System, the system comprising:

- first means for receiving data to be supplied to database operations, the data including at least one domain name comprising a plurality of successive labels, said at least one domain name being in a first format;

- second means for converting at least one of said at least one domain name into

a second format in which at least two successive labels of the at least one of said at least one domain name are combined to form a single label; and

- third means for supplying the data to database operations, the supplied data including at least one domain name in the second format.

10. A system according to claim 9, further comprising fourth means for examining whether a domain name fulfills a predetermined condition, the second means being configured to convert the domain name into the second format when the domain name fulfills the predetermined condition.

11. A name server for a Domain Name System, the name server comprising:

- a first interface for receiving data to be supplied to database operations, the data including at least one domain name comprising a plurality of successive labels, said at least one domain name being in a first format;

- a modification module operably connected to the first interface for converting at least one of said at least one domain name into a second format in which at least two successive labels of the at least one of said at least one domain name form a single label; and

- a second interface, operably connected to the modification module for supplying the data to database operations, the supplied data including at least one domain name in the second format.

12. A computer program product, the product comprising computer readable

code being configured to cause a computer to substantially perform the steps of claim 1 when executed by said computer.